A p; ointments to Board of Naval-Army Group Insurance Fund Scheme

4462. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA :
SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some publicmen are appointed as Directors on the Board of Naval Army Group Insurance Fund Scheme ; if so, what is the criteria for such appointments/selections ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Shri Ajit Haksar, former Chairman, J M/s ITC Ltd., a leading cigarette manufacturing company in the country, is one of the Directors of the said Board ;

(c) if so, whether Government are aware that most of the excise duty evasion cases against ITC involving crores of rupees were detected during his tenure as Chairman ITC ; and

(d) if so, what are the consideration which weighed with Government to overlook these facts and to appoint him as Director on the Board of Naval Army Group Insurance Fund Scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) No publicmen are appointed on the Board of Governors of the Army Group Insurance Fund Scheme or the Naval Group Insurance Scheme.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Weapons Imported by Nepal from China

4463. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Governmet are aware that Nepal has imported huge quantity of weapons from China very recently, which includes A.K.-47 rifles, rockets and antiaircraft guns

(b) if so, wether Government have information that these weapons are being supplied to army posts on the Indo-Nepal border ;

(c) if so, what is the reaction of the Government of India thereto and whether Government have taken up the matter with the Nepal Government, if so, the outcome thereof and

(d) whether the Minister of State for External Affairs has discussed the issue with the Nepalese authorities on his recent visit there, if so, the results thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Government are aware of imports of arms by Nepal From China.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arisee.

(d) During the recent visit to Nepal of the Minister of State for External Affairs, a number of issues were discussed, including aspects relating to security.

Indo-China Border Talks

4464, SHRI SURESH PACH OURI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that both India and China had a number of talks in regard to border settlement between the two countries